



Wisconsin Medicaid Fact Sheet

Continuous Newborn Eligibility

Medical care in a child's first year is extremely important to life-long health.

If you are the mother of a newborn child and you are receiving Medicaid or Healthy Start on the day your baby is born, the baby is automatically eligible for Medicaid for the entire first year of his or her life. Your baby will be covered through the end of the month of his or her first birthday.

The baby must live with you continuously to be eligible for the full year. The baby will remain eligible even if there are changes in your family size or income and you are no longer eligible. For example, a baby born on June 9, 2003 will continue to receive coverage through June 30, 2004.

Your hospital or HMO will notify Medicaid of your child's birth and you will automatically receive the baby's Medicaid "Forward" identification card.

With the "Forward" card, you will receive a letter explaining eligibility requirements and a reminder to tell your worker you have a new baby. Confirm that the baby has lived with you since birth by signing the statement at the bottom of the letter and returning it in the envelope provided. If you do not receive your child's Medicaid "Forward" ID card and the letter within two weeks of the child's birth please call your worker and report the birth.

Remember it is important to report any changes in your family situation to your worker.

If you were not receiving Medicaid when you gave birth to your child, you can still apply for Medicaid for your child. Be sure to apply within three months of the child's birth. If you do and you are found eligible, Medicaid may be able to provide coverage back to the date of birth.

For More Information:

- Contact Recipient Services at 1-800-362-3002 (TTY and translation services are available), or
- Your local county/tribal social or human services department, or Medicaid outstation site.

Information provided in this document is general. To find out more detailed information regarding Continuous Newborn Eligibility, please contact your local county/tribal social or human services department.

DHFS is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format, or need it translated to another language, please contact (608) 266-3356 or (608) 266-2555 TTY (toll free). All translation services are free of charge.

For civil rights questions call (608) 266-3465 or (608) 266-2555 TTY (toll free).